

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of the claims:

Claim 1 (previously cancelled).

2. (Previously Amended) A polynucleotide comprising a modified Cre recombinase gene comprising SEQ ID NO:1; and an inducible promoter operatively linked to the modified Cre recombinase gene.

3. (Previously Amended) The polynucleotide according to claim 2, further comprising at least one of a marker gene, a nucleic acid encoding a nuclear transport signal, and a Kozak sequence.

Claim 4 (Previously Cancelled).

5. (Previously Amended) The polynucleotide according to claim 2, wherein the inducible promoter is a thymidine kinase promoter.

6. (Previously Cancelled).

7. (Previously Amended) A polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide according to Claim 2.

Claims 8-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Amended) A cell into which the polynucleotide according to Claim 2 is introduced, wherein an active Cre recombinase is expressed in the cell.

Claims 12-24 (Cancelled)

Claims 25-35 (Previously Cancelled).

Claim 36 (Cancelled).